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MEMOIR

OF

JOHN RODMAN PAUL, M.D.,

LATE TREASURER OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA.

BY

S. LITTELL, M.D.

PHILADELPHIA:
1878.

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COLLINS, PRINTER.

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By

S. LITTELL, M.D.

[Read December 5, 1877.]

John Rodman Paul, the eldest son of the late James Paul, was born on the 24th of January, 1802.

His father was a prominent merchant of Philadelphia, doing business under the firm-name of Paul and Watson, and largely interested in the East India trade. His remote ancestors—landholders and farmers by occupation, and Quakers by religious profession—emigrated from Yorkshire, England, towards the close of the seventeenth century, and settled at Abington, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. His mother, Elizabeth Rodman—pleasant remembrances of whom are cherished by all who knew her—was the daughter of John Rodman, formerly Sheriff of Burlington County, New Jersey; whose ancestor, the first John Rodman, removed to Barbadoes in 1679, his two sons emigrating to this country, and establishing themselves, one in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and the other in New Jersey.

Dr. Paul was a bright, vivacious youth, of retentive memory and good general ability; and much care appears to have been expended upon his early education. After some preparatory tuition under the direction of competent teachers, he was

317153

sent abroad to a select school, consisting of a class of twelve boys under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Hunt, whence he was removed to Clermont Academy, or College, as it was then called, near Philadelphia. In due season he entered, a Freshman, the Department of Arts in the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated, the first honor of his class, in 1820, delivering the Latin oration at the Commencement.

Various circumstances combined to influence his choice of medicine as the pursuit of his life; and he began its study under the auspices of his friend and the family physician, Dr. Joseph Parrish, a gentleman distinguished alike by his private worth and professional eminence. Dr. Parrish was assisted in the instruction of his class by several able associates, among whom were Dr. George B. Wood, the beloved and venerated President of the College; Dr. Richard Harlan, the eminent naturalist; and Dr. Nathan Shoemaker. Some changes were made at a later period, and the auxiliary staff was strengthened by the accession of Dr. John Rhea Barton. It was one of the largest of the private schools of the country—a distinction partly due to the magnetic influence of its chief, and partly to the excellence of the instruction there imparted. The lectures of some of the gentlemen mentioned, those of Dr. Wood particularly, would have compared not unfavorably in style, thoroughness, and adaptation to the wants of the pupils, with those delivered in the wider and more ambitious sphere of the university. Drs. Chapman, Physick and Gibson occupied respectively the chairs of Medicine, Anatomy and Surgery, in that institution, and the well-merited reputation and prestige of the professors covered, in some measure, the defects of their teaching.[1] It was through

[1] Drs. James, Hare and Coxe were professors of Obstetrics, Chemistry and Materia Medica. Horner and Lawrence were assistants to the Anatomi-

no fault of theirs that the curriculum was not more complete. Dr. Physick had been transferred from the surgical to the anatomical chair, which any competent person of less note would have filled as well, and the wealth of his long experience in his congenial department was therefore lost to the students. The courses were all too short and imperfect. Several of the branches, annually begun *ab initio*, were never finished. In the anatomical theatre, for instance, nearly one-third of each term was devoted to osteology, which could have been as well, or better, studied at home; other matters of equal or greater importance being either cursorily treated, or not noticed at all. The anatomical instruction was moreover merely descriptive, with the least imaginable infusion of physiological or pathological information. In many points it was as the early dawn to the fuller light of the morning. The pupil whose public instruction was not supplemented by systematic and thorough private teaching, would therefore have necessarily carried away with him a very imperfect knowledge of the subjects professed to be taught. Under these circumstances, the previous training by Drs. Parrish and Wood became invaluable; the one contributing the results of his strong native sagacity and extensive experience, anticipating on several points the more scientific revelations of a later age; the other by his method

cal Chair, and looking forward to its reversion. Dr. John D. Godman, entering rather later on his brief and brilliant career, was regarding it with his *ingenium perfervidum* as the goal of his ambition, to which similar positions, tendered him in Baltimore and New York, were merely introductory. He declared to the writer that he intended to accomplish his purpose by desert alone—without taking any measures, soliciting a single vote, or asking for the influence of any one. He would "compel the trustees to elect him by deserving it."

and minuteness elucidating and exhausting the topics which he discussed, and both exhibiting in their lives and deportment a high ideal of all that was truthful, elevated, urbane, and refined.

Under such instructors the foundations of medical education were broadly and firmly laid. Mr. Paul, profiting by the advantages which he enjoyed, applied himself with diligence to his studies, and assumed from the beginning a prominent position among his fellows. Proceeding in 1823, with a mind well imbued with the principles of his profession, to his examination for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, he immediately afterwards embarked on a voyage to Europe—then much less common than now—in company with his relative Dr. John Marshall Paul (who had graduated the preceding year), with the view of still further qualifying himself for practice. On this occasion he frequented the chief hospitals of Paris; attended the lectures of the distinguished physicians and surgeons, Corvisart, Broussais, Dupuytren, Larrey, etc., then flourishing there; and availed himself of the leisure afforded by the summer vacations to visit other parts of the continent—Switzerland, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands—and Great Britain also. Returning to the United States in 1825, he had the inestimable advantage of perfecting his medical education by two years' residence as *Interne* of the Pennsylvania Hospital. Thus thoroughly versed in the theory, and initiated into the practice, of his profession, he announced himself a candidate for public employment by taking office in his father's residence in Third Street below Pine, whence, on his marriage, he removed to a house nearly opposite; changing his location only—as larger accommodation became necessary—to a mansion in Pine Street below Third. Here he continued in a steadily in-

creasing and ultimately lucrative practice until the year 1844, when, his father having died and the care of his estate demanding more time than was compatible with due devotion to professional duty, he retired altogether from active business.

In 1828, Dr. Paul was united in marriage to Elizabeth Duffield, the eldest daughter of the late Dr. Henry Neill, formerly Vice-President of the College; a woman of great loveliness of disposition, and admirably adapted by her many virtues to dignify and adorn domestic life. His cup of happiness was now full to overflowing; and "if ever lot was prosperously cast," that lot might be truly said to have been his. Indeed, the world had little more that it could bestow upon him. His fortune was ample; his amiable companion realized in all its fulness the description drawn by Inspiration of a good wife,[1] and he was sensible of the value of his possession; his children, fulfilling his fondest expectations, were growing like olive branches around his table; his family relations were all pleasant; sorrow had not yet invaded his sanctuary; the present was filled with the charities and amenities of social converse; and the future was bright with the bow of promise. Years rolled peacefully and almost imperceptibly along; and "the smooth current of domestic joy" flowed with uninterrupted tranquillity, until it was rudely checked by the death of Mrs. Paul in 1866.

We are everywhere taught in the Divine Word that it is good to be afflicted; and observation and experience confirm the lesson. The author of the Night Thoughts exclaims with grateful fervor—

> "Amid my list of blessings infinite,
> Stand this the foremost, that my heart has bled;"

[1] Proverbs xxxi. 10-31.

and pronounces that man unhappy who has never known affliction. It came upon our friend in all the anguish of a great and crushing bereavement. But it was received with humble submission; and, soothed—as far as such grief can be soothed—by the kind sympathy of family and friends, was borne with exemplary equanimity and resignation.

As a physician, Dr. Paul was a close observer of the phenomena of disease; simple, judicious, and conservative in its treatment. He was kind and attentive in his ministrations to the sick; and the efficiency and conscientiousness with which he discharged the responsibilities of his vocation, won for him the confidence and respect of his patients.

In ceasing to be a practitioner of medicine he had no intention of severing altogether his connection with a profession which it had been the great object of his early ambition to acquire. He was accordingly chosen one of the first managers of Wills Hospital for the Diseases of the Eye, and succeeded his preceptor, Dr. Parrish, in the Presidency of the Board; the duties of which office he continued sedulously to perform during the long period of nearly thirty years. In 1838 he became Treasurer of the College of Physicians, and held that position by annual re-election, with universal satisfaction, until his death. Manifesting, as he ever did, a lively interest in public affairs, national, State, and municipal, he suffered himself in 1844 to be elected a member of the city Councils; but, this being an uncongenial sphere, he served one term only; nor was he afterwards a candidate for any political situation. About this time, also, he was appointed a director of the Girard College, and assigned to a place on the Building Committee. His even temperament, sound judgment, business capacity, strict integrity, and personal interests, rendered him a valuable member of several financial

and manufacturing corporations. He acted for ten years, from 1859, as Treasurer and Agent of the Washington Manufacturing Company, Gloucester, New Jersey; and filled, during the third of a century, the post of President of the Gloucester Land Company; in both of which associations he had made early and large investment. He was a Director of the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from loss by Fire; of the Bank of Commerce; and of the Philadelphia Savings Bank. In 1869 he was made a Trustee of his Alma Mater, the University of Pennsylvania. He was also an Inspector of the County Prison—a station conferred by judicial appointment—and found in it a means of benefiting the community by improving the condition of an unhappy and much neglected class of offenders.

It might be supposed that a life thus occupied would not have many idle or unemployed moments to spare from the paramount demands of business; and yet so orderly and systematic was Dr. Paul in all his ways, that he found abundant leisure for the requirements of family intercourse, and the courtesies of a cultivated society. His sober and practical view of things, his forecast, prudence, and common sense, caused his opinions to be regarded with respect and deference by his associates in the various societies with which he was connected. He possessed in an uncommon degree the power of self-restraint, and would remain serene and unmoved amid the stormiest discussion. His disposition was cheerful—in early life playful and gay; and he abounded in *bon-mots*, witticisms, anecdote, and repartee. Amiable in his intercourse with his friends, and affectionate in his family relations, he was with others—more especially in the latter part of his life—rather grave and reserved. A change had gradually taken place, partly attributable to the influence of his

sad bereavement, and partly to the fact that, like "Earth's happiest man," he had drained the cup which she offers, and, as it must ever be, was unsated by the draught. The buoyancy and mirthfulness of earlier days, were succeeded by an unwonted seriousness and reticence. He bore himself more passively than before; indulged less frequently in his genial pleasantries; and, as if it were an effort rather than a pleasure, ceased to take, as he had been accustomed to do, his full share in conversation. By strangers, or casual acquaintances, it might, perhaps, be thought that there was always something of indifference or coldness in his deportment; but this was more in appearance than in reality. It was necessary that he should be known to be fully appreciated. Though uniformly courteous and polite, it is no derogation to say—for it is the prerogative of few—that he did not possess the fascination and winning affability, the magnetism of manner, which, on first impression, attract regard and insure popularity; resembling in this respect John Quincy Adams, or Sir Robert Peel, rather than Henry Clay, or Mr. Kendall. The description which Shakspeare gives of the great Cardinal, might, with some little qualification, be applied also to him:—

> "Lofty and sour to those who loved him not,
> But to those men who sought him, sweet as summer."

But these blemishes, if such they were, though they may have lessened the grace, scarcely impaired the fair proportions, of a character in which there was so much to respect, admire, and approve.

In stature, Dr. Paul was rather above the ordinary height; and in figure, well formed and robust. His features were regular and clearly defined; his countenance prepossessing; his step short and quick; and his carriage erect and manly.

He was simple and moderate in his habits; straightforward and honest; and free from all ostentation, pretence, sham, and unreality. Like Cowper, he hated from his very soul all affectation. There was no concealment or hypocrisy in his nature; his disapprobation was unmistakably expressed, and his approval as heartily bestowed. He was an useful citizen, and a humane, honorable and upright man. No one ever connected his name with aught that was little, equivocal, or unworthy. He was scrupulously observant of punctuality in all his engagements, rightly thinking that time is money, and that no man is excusable for selfishly encroaching on what belongs to another. We could scarcely conceive of the commission by him of so flagrant a breach of the law of consideration, as is related by Dr. Charles Caldwell of the admirable and justly celebrated Dr. Wistar. Having on one occasion an appointment with the Doctor, in the northern part of the city, Dr. Caldwell—then temporarily residing in Burlington—rose, breakfasted before daylight, and rode on horseback twenty miles through cold and mud, in order to be on the spot at the designated time; and—waited half an hour for his colleague, who had to ride only a few furlongs! Want of punctuality was certainly a defect in a character which abounded in so many virtues; but there are few in whom so much could be found to palliate, if not to excuse, even that delinquency. He was at the time overwhelmed with engagements; and had too confidently undertaken to compose his great work simultaneously with its delivery in lecture. The tyranny of the press, and the distractions of business, public and private, rendered such a task impracticable, and it was soon abandoned.

Dr. Paul sometimes, though rarely, took part in the debates of the College; but when he did so, his opinions, char-

acterized by his wonted clearness, shrewdness, and practical common sense, were always heard with respectful attention, and seldom failed to elucidate the subject under discussion. No medical papers from his pen are known to exist; and it is believed that he contributed little or nothing to the literature of his profession;—a matter of well-founded regret, for, though he had long withdrawn from practice, his opportunities for observation had been considerable, he was still conversant with medical men, and from the resources of a thoughtful and active mind he might have drawn much to enlighten and instruct. He served the College not only in the office of treasurer, the duties of which he performed with the strictest accuracy, fidelity, and forbearance, but also in the several committees of which he was either *ex-officio*, or otherwise, a member; always ready to fill any post, or do any service that was devolved upon him. He evinced a deep interest in the College to the very close of his life. Although he seemed for the last few weeks to have banished from his mind all concern for his personal interests, he constantly thought and spoke of its affairs; and even made reference to them on the day before his departure—

"When death, just hovering, claimed his prey!"

To facilitate the business of his department, he was accustomed, with book, and papers ready for signature, to attend the meetings of the College, "sitting at the receipt of custom" immediately below the chair of the President; and few were the occasions, stated or special, on which, during his long tenure of office, he was absent from his position.

The political opinions of Dr. Paul were strongly republican. He was no apologist for slavery, but would nevertheless have preserved inviolate its constitutional guarantees, as long as they were observed by its advocates. The separation of the

States he clearly foresaw would necessarily increase in a tenfold degree all the evils of which they complained; and the preservation of the Union was therefore paramount to every other consideration. His reason and his sympathies thus concurring, he warmly espoused the cause of the National Government, and throughout the struggle exerted himself heartily in its behalf.

He was brought up in the bosom of the Presbyterian denomination; regulated his life by the precepts of Christianity; and long enjoyed the teaching and pastoral direction of his learned friend, the late Rev. Albert Barnes. Happy would he have been could he have had in his declining years, and in his final hours, the cheering ministrations of that eminent and exemplary divine!

Dr. Paul inherited from nature an excellent constitution, which he had injured by no excess, and rejoiced in the possession of general good health, chequered only by occasional attacks of gout, until he had attained the advanced period of three-score years and ten. Surrounded by all that could minister to ease and comfort, and with the pleasures of the world always within his reach, he not unwisely thought that they were intended by the GIVER for restrained and moderate enjoyment; but his indulgence never overpassed the boundaries of discretion and sobriety. His coolness amid scenes of excitement has already been noticed; and the self-discipline and control which it implied, governed all his conduct. It is much to say that, preserving the happy mean between license and undue strictness, he led a blameless and virtuous life, marked by a dignity of demeanor and consistency of behavior not always seen in persons of higher profession and more rigid practice.

His death was neither sudden nor unexpected. Apart

from the flight of time, he had received intimations by ailments incident to age that his physical health was waning, and that it behooved him to set his house in order. His once vigorous frame lost its fulness and solidity; his strength became gradually impaired, until it was "but labor and sorrow;" and his range of exercise, though he bravely strove against increasing weakness and infirmity, grew more and more circumscribed, until at last he was confined to his bed. There was no particular local disease. The functions of digestion and assimilation were suspended, or very inadequately performed. Emaciation was, of course, extreme, and, in the sure gradation of decay, attaining a point incompatible with longer existence, he peacefully and trustfully expired on the 13th of October, 1877, in the full possession of his mental faculties, and in the seventy-sixth year of his age.

Dr. Paul went in and out among his fellow-citizens of a community in which he had always dwelt, during a period considerably beyond that ordinarily allotted to man, with an unsullied character; and enjoyed in a high degree the respect, confidence, and esteem of all good men. This appreciation and sympathy were shown by the general expression of sorrow for his death, and by the concourse at his funeral of persons venerable for their age and distinguished by their talents and position.

Obituary notices, speaking in regretful and laudatory terms, appeared editorially in all the principal papers of the city; and the various institutions of which he was a member hastened to place on record appropriate memorials expressive of their grief and loss. Several of these, together with the proceedings of the College, have been appended to this memoir, as containing further illustrative information, and as furnishing independent testimony to the truth of the outline therein briefly and imperfectly drawn. Many will probably

be surprised at the numerous and weighty engagements of one who went quietly about doing his duty, seeking no applause from man, but content with the approbation of his own conscience, and careless apparently of any other reward.

How different the spectacle presented in their latter days by two individuals who grew old together, and whom many of us have personally known and loved—of equal intelligence, culture, social rank, and estimation—neighbors, friends, and companions from childhood. The one loosening his hold on life, emancipating himself from its cares, and slowly descending into the place appointed for all the living; while the other, a few years only his junior, renewing his youthful vigor, and mounting, almost literally, on eagles' wings, is borne abroad, with universal and hearty acclaim, the honored representative of his country at the court of one of the most powerful and intelligent nations upon earth!

> Per varios casus, per tot discrimina rerum
> Tendimus in Latium; ubi sedes fata quietas
> Ostendunt.

Mr. Chairman, I have finished a task which, as you know, I accepted with an unwillingness arising solely from the conviction that there were among the Fellows many by whom it would be much better performed. Of the correctness of the portrait, they are amply qualified by long acquaintance to judge, and will bear ready witness that I have not written in a strain of undeserved and indiscriminate eulogy. It has afforded me a grateful opportunity of laying my humble tribute on the grave of a friend of more than fifty years, from whom I have received many acts of kindness, and to whom I am indebted, among others, for my nomination to Fellowship —almost coeval with his own—in this College.

Requiescat in Pace!

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

At a special meeting of the College of Physicians, held October 15, 1877, on the occasion of the decease of Dr. J. Rodman Paul, the following minute and resolutions proposed by a committee, of which Dr. Edward Hartshorne was chairman, were unanimously adopted:—

The long-continued and important relations with the College, of our late Fellow, John Rodman Paul, M.D., render it proper to place upon the minutes a formal recognition of the high character of those relations, and of the loss sustained in their termination by his death on the thirteenth day of October, 1877.

Dr. Paul was elected a Fellow of the College in February, 1836, and Treasurer of the College in July, 1838. He was one of the Trustees of the Building Fund of the College from its inception in 1850, until the final merging of that fund in the property of the College, and the discharge of the trustees in March, 1863. He was also a member of the Building Committee of the College until the discharge of that committee in February, 1864, after the completion of the College Hall. And, since the organization under the Mütter agreement, and on the completion of the Hall, of the Committee on the Mütter Museum, to receive and disburse the income of the Mütter Endowment Fund, he has been the chairman of that committee.

He was distinguished, therefore, not only as the holder of one of the most responsible and onerous offices of the College during nearly forty years, but as the most important participant in the three other important pecuniary trusts of the College during nearly eighteen of those forty years.

Although for many years withdrawn from professional practice, and rarely taking part in scientific discussions, he was scarcely ever absent from his post at the meetings of the College and of the committees; and he continued to manifest a strong interest in the affairs and objects of the College, and to attend to his official duty, as far as his failing strength permitted, until the last few hours of his life.

His constant and active interest in the concerns of the College, his ever watchful and wise scrutiny of its expenditures, his promptness and precision in the management of its accounts, and his courtesy in the discharge of his official duties, his clearly expressed and just sense of honor and propriety as well as of sound policy, his readiness to uphold and advance the true interests and dignity of the College and to oppose all inconsiderate or compromising action, have long been familiar characteristics of his connection with the College. They have exercised an influence on the deliberations and habitual character of the College which cannot be too highly valued, and must long continue.

In view of the record thus presented, it is *Resolved*—

1st. That the decease of their late treasurer, John Rodman Paul, M.D., is deeply felt by his fellows of the College, as the loss of one of their most esteemed and honored officers and members, whose faithful and efficient services and wholesome influence will long be held in grateful and affectionate remembrance.

2d. That his example as an Officer and a Fellow will be cherished by the College as among the most useful of the services rendered during his forty years devotion to the general interests of the College, and to the onerous and often thankless duties of his important trusts.

3d. That a copy of this minute and these resolutions be respectfully conveyed to the family of the deceased, as expressing the sentiments of the College, and its sympathy with them in the common bereavement.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PHILADELPHIA CONTRIBUTIONSHIP.

Extract from the minutes of a stated meeting of the board of directors of "The Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses by Fire," held October 17, 1877. The chairman, Dr. Charles Willing, presented and read the following

MINUTE.

Resolved, That the board of directors have heard with deep sorrow of the death of their late fellow-member, Dr. John Rodman Paul, which took place on the 13th of this month.

Dr. Paul was chosen a director of this Company March 1, 1848. During this long period he was a most useful and efficient member, always giving faithful attention to the work of the committees, while to the management of affairs in the general Board he brought a clear and independent judgment, ever expressed both with courtesy and with self-reliance, which was most valuable in determining the direction of business.

He possessed much literary culture, and having selected the profession of medicine, in his qualification for its pursuit availed himself not only of the resources of the best Schools in his native country, but also of some of those most distinguished in Europe; and entered upon the practice of his profession as one of the most thoroughly educated men of his day, giving abundant evidence that, had he continued in its active exercise, from which he withdrew at a comparatively early period, he would have become one of its most distinguished members.

The high consideration in which he was held by the general community was evidenced by the many important public trusts which he was chosen to fill; the duties of all of which he discharged with the most complete ability and thorough integrity.

With a character possessing all the elements of strength, fitting him for the successful conduct of affairs, he was of a most kind and genial temper, eminently social, and extremely attaching all who knew him well.

The Board wish, on this occasion, to express the great respect and warm regard felt for him by every member of their body, and desire also respectfully to offer to those whom this deep bereavement most nearly touches, the expression of their heartfelt sympathy.

On motion of John Welsh, Esq., the minute was approved, and the Secretary was directed to enter it at length on the minutes, and send a copy to the family.

JAS. SOMERS SMITH, *Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PRISON INSPECTORS.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY PRISON,
October 17, 1877.

At a special meeting of the Board of Inspectors of the Philadelphia County Prison held this day, the President of the Board, John B. Biddle M.D., announced the death of John Rodman Paul, M.D., when, on motion of the Hon. J. R. Chandler, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

The death of John Rodman Paul, M.D., is an event which produces great emotions of regret in all who had general intercourse with one so eminently capable of inspiring respect, and especially is such interruption of social and official intercourse to be lamented by "The Board of Inspectors of the Philadelphia County Prison," of which Board Dr. Paul had been for more than twenty-one years a useful member; in the discharge of the duties of which place he had insured great respect by his sound judgment, his steady advocacy of the right, and his temperate zeal for the proper administration of the affairs of the institution; while he secured and maintained the affectionate regard of his colleagues by the unvarying courtesy of his manner and the kindness of his disposition.

The Board of Managers, mindful of the many virtues of its departed member, and feeling it a duty to make record of the esteem in which he was held by his co-laborers, and of the deep regret which the loss of his companionship has produced, has

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. John Rodman Paul, the public generally has occasion to mourn the loss of a valued, public-spirited citizen, who gave the use of varied talents to many of the institutions of this city, and, with a full devotion of his gifts and acquirements, acquitted himself of his assumed obligations so amply and so successfully, as to insure the profound and grateful recollection of his fellow-citizens.

Resolved, That the members of the Board bear in constant recollection the pleasure of their official intercourse with a gentleman whose amenity of manner and whose large acquirements from study and travel gave a charm to his companionship, and whose sound judgment in the discharge of his public duties, and well-regulated views of the responsibilities of the places he held at the Board, insured affectionate and lasting respect; and the surviving members of the Board feel that they discharge a duty to themselves, as well as to the memory of their departed colleague, when they unite to express their high appreciation of the worth of Dr. J. Rodman Paul, whose life insured for him the regret, and warranted the commendations, that follow the death of a good man.

Resolved, That these proceedings be spread at large upon the minutes of the meeting, and that an attested copy thereof be transmitted to the family of the deceased, as an expression of the profound respect in which the members of the Board hold the memory of their departed colleague, and as a token of the sympathy of the Board in the sorrow which such a bereavement has brought to the mourning relatives.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Prison the day and year above written.

JOSEPH K. HOWELL, *Clerk*.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PHILADELPHIA SAVING FUND.

PHILADELPHIA SAVING FUND SOCIETY.

At the stated meeting of the managers, on the 7th instant, the President having announced to the Board the death of Dr. J. Rodman Paul, a manager of the Society, the following minute was submitted by Dr. W. V. Keating, and unanimously adopted:—

Dr. J. Rodman Paul was elected a member of our board in December, 1872, and, though only five years among us, was always assiduous in his attendance on our meetings, and most zealous in promoting the interest of our Institution.

A distinguished graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, he finished his medical education in Paris, where he acquired a thorough knowledge of the French language and literature. After devoting himself many years to the practice of medicine in his native city, beloved and respected by a large circle of devoted patients, he retired from the active duties of his profession at an early period. In comparative affluence, surrounded by admiring and faithful friends selected from the most esteemed portion of our community, he did not abandon himself to a life of ease and indolence, but devoted the resources of a highly cultivated mind, and uncompromising rectitude of character, to the benefit of his fellow-citizens. As Treasurer of

the College of Physicians in this city, Inspector of Public Prisons, Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, and Director of the Bank of Commerce, he evinced sterling traits of character, and gave evidence of a rare combination of a high degree of mental culture and unflinching integrity. Unassuming and genial in manner, ready in conversation, and with a wit

> "Which in the combat as gentle as bright
> Ne'er carried a heart stain away on its blade,"

he was the favored guest of every circle.

He passed gently away, surrounded by those loving hearts of his family hearth of which he had ever been the life and the light, and mourned by a grateful community as a model of an upright man and a true Christian.

Placide quiescat!

Resolved, that we sincerely condole with his bereaved family at the irreparable loss which they have sustained, and that whilst, as his fellow-members, we deeply deplore the absence from among us of one who has so endeared himself to us, we also recognize in his useful and unspotted career a forcible example of the influence which a modest, high-toned, and courteous gentleman can exert upon a whole community.

Extract from the Minutes,

Nov. 9, 1877. WILLIAM PURVES, *Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 7, 1877.

J. RODMAN PAUL, ESQ.,

Dear Sir: At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, held Nov. 6, 1877, before proceeding to business, Mr. Fraley feelingly announced to the Board the death of their late fellow-member, Dr. J. Rodman Paul, which had taken place since the last meeting, when it was

Resolved. That this Board has heard with deep regret of the death of Dr. J. Rodman Paul, for many years past their honored colleague in the Board of Trustees of this Institution,

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. Paul the University has lost one who, by his long service, eminent ability, and wise counsel, added much to the welfare and reputation of the Institution.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Dr. Paul and be entered on the Minutes.

With the highest respect,

CADWALADER BIDDLE, *Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GLOUCESTER LAND COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 15, 1877.

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the "Gloucester Land Company," held this day, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the Board has learned with feelings of deep regret of the death of its late President, John Rodman Paul, M.D., who has presided over its deliberations for more than a quarter of a century with so much dignity, wisdom, and impartiality; and that we all realize that in the death of Dr. Paul this Company has lost its chief guide to its present prosperity, we an old and pleasant friend and associate, and his family (with whom we deeply sympathize) an indulgent and affectionate father, who was in every sense a truly Christian gentleman.

JAS. B. McFARLAND,
Secretary of the Meeting.

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